

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANAA 00857 191501 Z

42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 SCS-03 SCA-01 H-02 PRS-01 L-03

SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01

PA-03 PPT-02 /075 W

----- 111123

P R 191020 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2151

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 857

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SALTZMAN AND JUNGMAN)

SUBJECT: IMPRISONMENT OF AMCITS

REF: SANAA 831

1. SUMMARY. AS REFLECTION OF ACUTE SENSITIVITY OF YARG MILITARY LEADERS REGAGCING THIS CASE, FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS STRUCK OUT IN ITS EFFORTS ARRANGE FURTHER NORMAL CONSULAR ACCESS TO DETAINEES. AT SUGGESTION OF FOREIGN MINISTER, AMBASSADOR SAW PRIMIN HAJRI MAY 17 TO REVIEW ENTIRE CASE. WE HOPEFUL THIS WILL RESULT IN EARLY UNRESTRICTED INTERVIEWS WITH DETAINEES. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT SALTZMAN'S " CONFESSION" TO BEING AN ISRAELI SPY, PRIMIN WOULD MAKE NO COMMITMENT ABOUT EARLY RESOLUTION OR DEPORTATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPUTY PRIMIN/ FONMIN NU' MAN TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR MORNING MAY 17 TO SAY THAT, IN ABSENCE OF CIC MOHAMMAD AL- IRYANI IN MOSCOW, HE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE MOVE MILITARY SECURITY AUTHORITIES ON QUESTION OF RESUMED AND UNRESTRICTED CONSULAR ACCESS TO SALTZMAN AND JUNGMAN. MU' MAN SUGGESTED AMBASSADOR SEEK URGENT APPOINTMENT WITH PRIMIN HAJRI. AMBASSADOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANAA 00857 191501 Z

PUT IN APPOINTMENT WHICH WAS QUICKLY GRANTED.

3. 3. IN CONVERSATION WITH PRIMIN, AMBASSADOR REVIEWED ALL INFORMATION IN EMBASSY' S POSSESSION REGARDING EVOLUTION OF CASE. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WAS LAID ON SALZMAN' S BACKGROUND OF MENTAL INSTABILITY, TOTAL IMPROBABILITY THAT A REAL AGENT WOULD CARRY INCRIMINATING DOCUMENTATION (ISRAELI STUDENT ID CARD, LETTER IN HEBREW FROM ISRAELI FRIEND, DRAFT ARTICLE ON ISRAEL FOR PUBLICATION IN U. S. HOMETOWN PRESS) YON AND ROLE OF APPARENT YEMENI PHYSICAL COERCION AFTER SALTZMAN' S APRIL 29 ESCAPE IN OBTAINING HIS " CONFESSION." AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED ONE- HOUR PRESENTATION WITH REQUEST IN STRONG TERMS FOR UNRESTRICTED CONSULAR ACCESS AND EQUALLY STRONG PLEA THAT YARG CONCLUDE ITS INVESTIGATION PROMPTLY. AMBASSADOR SAID HE HOPEFUL THIS WOULD RESULT IN YARG AGREEING WITH US THAT SALTZMAN & JUNGMAN COULD NOT CONCEIVABLY BE PROFESSIONAL AGENTS AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE DEPORTED FROM YEMEN FORTHWITH BEFORE CASE HITS PRESS IN ARAB WORLD OR U. S.

4. REPLYING, PRIMIN SAID HE WOULD SEEK TO ARRANGE RENEWED, UNRESTRICTED ACCESS FOR CONSULAR OFFICER. WHILE NOTING ALL THAT AMBASSADOR HAD SAID REGARDING SALTZMAN' S RECORD OF UNSTABLE BEHAVIOR, PRIMIN SAID SALTZMAN' S ADMISSION TO BEING IN EMPLOY OF ISRAEL WAS A VERY LARGE OBSTACLE TO ANY CONSIDERATION OF HIS EARLY RELEASE. YARG HAD UNCOVERED REAL ISRAELI SPIES BEFORE, INCLUDING A SENIRO ISRAELI IN HODEIDAH IN 1972, SOME ETHIOPIANS, AND EVEN SOME RECRUITED YEMENIS. IT WAS TOO BAD THAT AN AMERICAN CITIZEN HAD TO BE INVOLVED BUT YARG COULD NOT TAKE THIS CASE LIGHTLY IN VIEW OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO OTHER ARAB NATIONS ON BATTLEFRONT WITH ISRAEL. TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD LAY YAR OPEN TO CRITICISM BY OTHER ARABS. GIVEN WEAKNESS OF ITS SECURITY POSITION VIS- A- VIS PDRY AND CONSEQUENT NEED FOR BROADEST ARAB SUPPORT, YARG COULD ILL AFFORD INVITE SUCH CRITICISM. YARG ALREADY UNDER THE PROPAGANDA GUNS OF PDRY BECAUSE OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANAA 00857 191501 Z

FALSE ALLEGATIONS OF ITS TOLERANCE OF ISRAELI PRESENCE ON ZUQAR ISLAND. IT HAVING PROBLEMS ENOUGH DEALING WITH THIS IN ARAB LEAGUE CONTEXT WITHOUT APPREARING TO SUBSTANTIATE CHARGES BY RELEASE OF SELF- CONFESSED SPY.

5. AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THAT OUR SUGGESTION RE

DEPORTATION DIRECTLY TO U. S. DESIGNED HELP YARG
IN THIS SENSE. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT WORST THING
YARG COULD DO WOULD BE SIMPLY TO LET DEPORTATION
DRAG ON WITHOUT RESOLUTION. THIS WOULD BE
PARTICULARLY UNFAIR TO JUNGMAN. PROCEDURALLY,
WHO WOULD BE MAKING THE DECISION, AND WHEN?

6. PRIMIN DECLINED SPECIFIC COMMENT ON THIS LAST
QUESTION SAYING ONLY THAT WHILE MARG SAW DESIRABILITY
OF EARLY RESOLUTION, THIS CASE POSED VERY SERIOUS
DIFFICULTIES.

7. LATER MAY 17, AMBASSADOR SAW NU' MAN TO RELAY
RESULTS OF MEETING WITH PRIMIN AND TO SAY WE
WOULD EXPECT A CALL FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
AS SOON AS RENEWED ACCESS ARRANGED. AMBASSADOR
REITERATED THAT IT RIDICULOUS" TO THINK OF
SALTZMAN AND JUNGMAN AS SPIES."" CONFESSION" WAS
OBTAINED UNDER SOME DURESS FROM A MENTALLY UNSTABLE
YOUNG MAN. IN INTERESTS OF OUR OVERALL AND VERY
POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP, THIS MATTER SHOULD BE
CLEARED UP PROMPTLY. NU' MAN SAID " WE ARE NOT
SCANDANAVIA BUT HOPEFULLY WE WE WILL FIND A WAY."

8. COMMENT: THE TROUBLE WITH THIS CASE, IT IS
INCREASINGLY EVIDENT, IS THAT THE YAR MILITARY
SECURITY APPARATUS IS CONVINCED IT
HAS A SPY ON ITS HANDS, HAS THE BIT IN ITS
TEETH, AND IN VIEW OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF
CASE IS PAYING SCANT HEED TO CIVILIANS UP TO AND
PROBABLY INCLUDING PRESIDENT IRYANI.
CRAWFORD

CONFIDENTIAL
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANAA00857
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SANAA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730551/aaaajouk.tel
Line Count: 148
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 SANAA 831
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980226
Subject: IMPRISONMENT OF AMCITS
TAGS: CASC, (SALTZMAN AND JUNGMAN)
To: NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005